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4-9-02  
Docket No. 47756-CIP1-DIV (70184)kel

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT: R. Formato, et al.  
SERIAL NO. 09/750,402 EXAMINER: Not Yet Assigned  
FILED: December 28, 2000 GROUP: 1745  
FOR: COMPOSITE SOLID POLYMER ELECTROLYTE MEMBRANES

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, DC 20231

Sir:

**SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please add the following new claims.

118. (new) A method of producing a composite solid polymer electrolyte membrane (SPEM) comprising a porous polymer substrate interpenetrated with an ion-conducting material, said method comprising the steps of preparing a mixture of the polymer substrate and the ion-conducting material and casting or extruding the composite SPEM from the mixture, and wherein the SPEM is substantially thermally stable to temperatures of at least about 100°C.

119. (new) A method of producing a composite solid polymer electrolyte membrane (SPEM) comprising a porous polymer substrate interpenetrated with an ion-conducting material, said method comprising the steps of preparing a mixture of the polymer substrate and the ion-conducting material and extruding or casting a composite

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